

Message Text

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN NEW YORK

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AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS3

TAGS: PFOR, TU, US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH TURKSIH FOREIGN MINISTER

CAGLAYANGIL

1. SUMMARY: SECRETARY'S ONE-HOUR MEETING WITH TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL SEPTEMBER 29 CENTERED ON GREEK-TURKISH DISPUTE IN AEGEAN. CAGLAYANGIL REVIEWED RESULTS OF HIS SEPTEMBER 27 MEETING WITH BITSIOS AND OUTLINED RESPONSE HE WOULD MAKE TO GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER WHEN TWO MET AGAIN IN NEW YORK ON OCTOBER 1. CAGLAYANGIL AFFIRMED HE WAS READY FOR SERIOUS, NEGOTIATION OF AEGEAN ISSUES ON POLITICAL LEVEL, BUT WAS SKEPTICAL THAT GREEKS WANTED TO DO MORE THAN PROVE THE NEGOTIATIONS A FAILURE, SO THEY COULD REFER WHOLE MATTER BACK TO THE ICJ. SECRETARY AND CAGLAYANGIL ALSO TOUCHED BRIEFLY ON CYPRUS, US-TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT, AND GROMYKO'S SPEECH BEFORE THE UNGA AS IT PERTAINED TO SOVIET SOUTHERN FLANK. MEETING ENDED WITH SECRETARY AFFIRMING US WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST IN RESOLVING AEGEAN AND CYPRUS ISSUES TO THE EXTENT PARTIES FELT WE COULD PLAY USEFUL ROLE. END SUMMARY

2. THE SECRETARY MET FOR ONE HOUR MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 29 WITH TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL. ALSO PRESENT
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ON TURKISH SIDE WERE AMBASSADOR ESENBEL, UN PERMREP

TURKMEN, TURKISH FONOFF CYPRUS EXPERT BARATCU AND INTERPRETER. PRESENT ON US SIDE IN ADDITION TO SECRETARY WAS UNDER SECRETARY HABIB, ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN AND EUR/SE DIRECTOR LEDSKY.

3. ALMOST ENTIRE MEETING WAS DEVOTED TO AEGEAN ISSUE. CAGLAYANGIL BEGAN BY REVIEWING RESULTS OF HIS MEETING ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, WITH BITSIOS. HE SAID BITSIOS HAD QUIZZED HIM AT LENGTH ABOUT WILLINGNESS OF TURKS TO NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY ON AEGEAN, WHEN THEY SEEMED UNWILLING OR UNABLE TO NEGOTIATE ON CYPRUS. BITSIOS ALSO HAD PROPOSED AS NEXT STEP PARALLEL TECHNICAL LEVEL DISCUSSIONS OF AIR SPACE AND CONTINENTAL SHELF QUESTIONS.

4. CAGLAYANGIL SAID HE HAD GIVEN BITSIOS NO REPLY, BUT INDICATED HE WOULD TELL HIM ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, WHEN THEY MET AGAIN, THAT TURKEY WAS READY TO NEGOTIATE ALL AEGEAN ISSUES INCLUDING DELIMITING THE CONTINENTAL SHELF. CAGLAYANGIL BELIEVED THAT THESE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED AT A POLITICAL, NOT A TECHNICAL, LEVEL, AND SAID HE WAS READY TO MEET ALONE WITH BITSIOS FOR SEVERAL DAYS AT ANY SPOT IN EUROPE TO CONSIDER ALL ASPECTS OF THE AEGEAN PROBLEM. CAGLAYANGIL MAINTAINED HE WOULD ALSO AGAIN PROPOSE JOINT EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION OF THE AEGEAN. CAGLAYANGIL SAID HE WAS SKEPTICAL THAT THE GREEKS WISHED TO NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY. THEIR AIM WAS TO HAVE ONE OR TWO MORE MEETINGS, CONVINCE THE WORLD THAT THE TALKS HAD FAILED, AND THEN TAKE THEIR CASE UNILATERALLY TO THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE IN THE EXPECTATION THAT THE COURT WOULD RULE IN GREECE'S FAVOR.

5. THE SECRETARY SAID HE DOUBTED, BASED ON HIS CONVERSATION WITH JOHN TZOUNIS THE PREVIOUS WEEK IN CRETE, THAT GREECE WOULD BE PREPARED FOR JOINT EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION OF THE ENTIRE AEGEAN, THOUGH THEY MIGHT BE WILLING TO CONSIDER SUCH A PLAN FOR THE DISPUTED AREAS, IF THAT COULD EVER BE DEFINED CLEARLY. THE SECRETARY AFFIRMED, HOWEVER, THAT IN HIS VIEW GREECE WOULD WANT TO SETTLE THE BOUNDARY QUESTIONS FIRST

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BEFORE ENGAGING IN ANY JOINT EXPLORATION ACTIVITY. IT SHOULD BE THE AIM OF BOTH SIDES TO REACH AGREEMENT ON AS MANY DISPUTED ISSUES AS POSSIBLE AND THEN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, REFER THE UNSOLVED QUESTIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL COURT.

6. CAGLAYANGIL THEN CHANGED SUBJECT TO ENQUIRE ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR EARLY CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON TURKISH-

US DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT. THE SECRETARY INDICATED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO GET CONGRESS TO TAKE FURTHER ACTION ON THE AGREEMENT BEFORE JANUARY. WHEN NEW YEAR BEGINS, SECRETARY PLEDGED TO PUT PRESSURE ON CONGRESS FOR EARLY PASSAGE OF THE DCA.

7. CAGLAYANGIL THEN COMPLAINED ABOUT HANDLING OF CYPRUS AGENDA ITEM IN UN GENERAL COMMITTEE LAST WEEK. CAGLAYANGIL NOTED THAT US HAD ABSTAINED ON QUESTION OF HEARING TURKISH CYPRIOTS ON EQUAL BASIS WITH GREEK CYPRIOTS IN SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE, BUT HAD THEN ARGUED THAT SAME COMMITTEE SHOULD HEAR AFRICANS WHEN CONSIDERING APARTHEID ISSUE. SECRETARY EXPLAINED THAT US WAS SYMPATHETIC TO TURKISH POSITION AND WOULD HAVE VOTED FOR IT HAD WE FOUND ANY WESTERN EUROPEAN SUPPORT. WHEN WE SAW WE STOOD ALONE, WE FELT IT BETTER TO ABSTAIN ON FINAL VOTE.

8. CAGLAYANGIL MADE BRIEF REFERENCE TO GROMYKO'S SPEECH BEFORE UNGA SEPTEMBER 28 IN WHICH HE MADE REFERENCE TO MILITARY ARMAMENTS AND BUILD-UP ALONG SOUTHERN BORDERS OF SOVIET UNION. SECRETARY SAID HE HAD NOT YET REVIEWED GROMYKO'S SPEECH AND WOULD PREFER TO DO SO BEFORE RESPONDING TO CAGLAYANGIL'S QUESTION.

9. FOLLOWING BILATERAL MEETING, BOTH SECRETARY AND FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL SPOKE BRIEFLY TO NEWSMEN. BOTH SAID THAT DISCUSSION HAD BEEN FRIENDLY AND USEFUL AND THAT CONVERSATION HAD CENTERED ON CYPRUS, AEGEAN AND BILATERAL US-TURKISH ISSUES.
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